

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above amendment to the paragraph at page 1, beginning of line 6 of the specification is provided to update information regarding the status of applications referred to in the paragraph, including identifying US patent number for the US patent application no. 09/998,821 as per an ISSUE NOTIFICATION mailed for the 09/998,821 case, which identifies a US Patent no. 6,666,856 and an issue date of Dec. 23, 2003. The marked up version of the paragraph at page 1, beginning of line 6, shown above, highlights the changes to the paragraph which are made relative to the corresponding paragraph after the amendments set forth in the preliminary amendment filed October 16, 2003 have been entered. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

The claims presented in the Preliminary Amendment filed October 16, 2003, are not changed by the present amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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